

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

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DRAFTED BY NEA/ARP:RWAHERNE/NEA:SSOBER:CEJ

APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY

S/S: CABORG

EUR/NE - MR. WORRELL

NEA:ALATHERTON

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 261580

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UK, SA, EG

SUBJECT: REPLY TO CALLAGHAN'S MESSAGE ON BRITISH-SAUDI
COMMUNIQUE

FOR THE AMBASSADOR FROM THE SECRETARY

1. PLEASE DELIVER FOLLOWING REPLY FROM ME TO FOREIGN
SECRETARY CALLAGHAN RE HIS MESSAGE ON THE SINAI ACCORD
(SEE SEPTTEL).

2. BEGIN TEXT: DEAR JIM: IT WAS GOOD OF YOU TO SEND
SUCH A PROMPT REPORT ON YOUR TALKS WITH THE SAUDIS.

I APPRECIATE YOUR EFFORTS TO INCLUDE A SPECIFIC ENDORSEMENT
OF THE SINAI ACCORD IN YOUR JOINT COMMUNIQUE. WE WOULD
HAVE WELCOMED SUCH AN OUTCOME TO YOUR DISCUSSIONS. I
THINK YOU DID THE BEST THING FEASIBLE UNDER THE CIRCUM-
STANCES. I AM ESPECIALLY GLAD THAT THE SAUDIS WILL AT
LEAST HAVE COME AWAY CONVINCED THAT YOU AND WE HAVE A
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COMMON, FIRM VIEW ON THIS ISSUE.

PRESIDENT FORD AND I ARE NOW HAVING SOME VERY USEFUL TALKS
WITH PRESIDENT SADAT. I SHALL SEND YOU A FULLER REPORT
WHEN HIS VISIT IS OVER, BUT I CAN SAY NOW THAT -- ASIDE

FROM ONE OR TWO CONTENTIOUS REMARKS ON ZIONISM AND
JEWS -- I THINK HE IS COMING ACROSS TO THE PUBLIC AT
LARGE AS AN ARAB LEADER OF MODERATE VIEWS, WHO MERITS
OUR CONTINUED STRONG SUPPORT. PRESIDENT FORD HAS
JUST SENT TO THE CONGRESS AN AID BILL WHICH CALLS FOR A
TRIPLING OF OUR HELP TO EGYPT OVER LAST YEAR.

IN THAT REGARD, WE WILL CONTINUE TO STRESS TO THE SAUDIS
THE NEED TO ASSIST SADAT, POLITICALLY AND OTHERWISE. AS
YOU KNOW, PRINCE FAHD TAKES SOME SATISFACTION IN THE
FACT THAT HE COMMENDED SADAT TO OUR ATTENTION SHORTLY
AFTER NASSER'S DEATH, AND ALSO DURING AND AFTER THE 1973
WAR. DESPITE SAUDI BACKING AWAY FROM THEIR INITIAL
ENDORSEMENT OF THE RECENT SINAI ACCORD, I BELIEVE THERE
REMAINS A FUNDAMENTAL BASE OF SUPPORT AMONG THE SAUDI
LEADERSHIP FOR SADAT. THAT SUPPORT, INCLUDING RIYADH'S
SUBSTANTIAL MATERIAL CONTRIBUTION TO EGYPT, IS CRUCIAL
TO OUR EFFORTS. I BELIEVE WE CAN LIVE WITH A SITUATION
IN WHICH SAUDI ARABIA MAINTAINS ITS BASIC SYMPATHY WITH
THE CURRENT EGYPTIAN LEADERSHIP BUT SEEKS AT THE SAME
TIME TO MAINTAIN ITS POSITION AMONG THE OTHER ARAB
STATES.

AGAIN, I AM GRATEFUL FOR YOUR MESSAGE AND YOUR EFFORTS.
BEST REGARDS, HENRY END TEXT. KISSINGER

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